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NEWS

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November 27, 2001

For Immediate Release:

EIU STUDENT'S DEATH BEING INVESTIGATED; FOUL PLAY NOT SUSPECTED

CHARLESTON -- The cause of death of a 43-year-old Danville man attending Eastern Illinois University will not be determined until an autopsy is performed and toxicology reports are received. However, university authorities have said there is no apparent sign of foul play.

The body of John Wendell Henry was discovered at approximately 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2001, by his father after family members became worried after failing to hear from him in recent days. The father, accompanied by an EIU employee, discovered his son's body inside an apartment in the University Apartments complex, located west of Wesley United Methodist Church, 2206 Fourth St.

Mr. Henry, a junior enrolled in Eastern's Board of Trustees Bachelor of Arts Degree Program, lived alone in the apartment. Initial reports indicated he had possibly been dead for a couple of days before his body was found.

The investigation is being handled by the EIU Police Department, the Illinois State Police and the Coles County Coroner's Office.

-30-

Eastern Illinois University emphasizes distinguished teaching in the liberal arts, sciences and selected professions. A traditional, residential state university of recognized quality, Eastern enrolls more than 10,000 students in undergraduate and graduate programs. The university, located in Charleston, also serves the region through a variety of non-credit and off-site degree programs, as well as cultural and recreational opportunities. Eastern's pursuit of excellence attracts well-qualified students of an increasingly diverse population and a teaching faculty active in research and public service who utilize the latest technology.